

Congresswoman Kosmas Announces Special Payments for Service Members Who Served Under Stop-Loss Orders

Payments Recognize Hardships Placed on Troops and Families for Extended Service

October 22, 2009

(Washington, D.C.) – Thursday, Congresswoman Suzanne Kosmas (FL-24) announced that as of yesterday special payments are available to over 185,000 service members who have had their enlistments involuntarily extended since September 11, 2001, providing \$500 for every month they were held under stop-loss orders. Congress established this payment in the 2009 War Supplemental Appropriations Act enacted this summer.

The Retroactive Stop-Loss Special Pay is available to service members who had their enlistment extended or retirement suspended due to stop-loss between Sept. 11, 2001 and Sept. 30, 2009. Eligible service members from every branch of the military will receive compensation.

“Stop-loss policies have put an incredible strain on our men and women in uniform and their families,” said Congresswoman Kosmas. “No amount of money can make up for the hardship that stop-loss has caused for so many families and individuals, but this \$500-per-month payment is a positive step and a long-overdue recognition of the sacrifices they have made.”

The Army had the largest number of personnel affected by stop-loss orders. Over 131,000 soldiers, including Guardsmen and Reservists, have been stop-lossed since 2001 for an average duration of 8 months each. Under the new policy, they will now be compensated an average of \$4,000.

Far fewer Navy personnel were subject to the stop-loss policy, only 5,565 in total, but those sailors were involuntarily kept on active duty for an average time of 15 months each. As a result, an average sailor who was subjected to stop-loss will receive a retroactive compensation payment of \$7,500. Additional stop-loss statistics are available below.

Service members may begin submitting their claim for Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay today. All applications must be submitted to the respective services no later than Oct. 21, 2010. Service members must provide documented proof they were stop-lossed with their claim. Family members of deceased service members should contact the appropriate military service for assistance in filing their claim.

For additional information, troops and their families can use the links below or contact Kosmas’ office at 407-208-1106.

Army: <https://www.stoplosspay.army.mil>

Navy: send email to – NXAG_N132C@navy.mil

Marine Corps: <https://www.manpower.usmc.mil/stoploss>

Air Force: <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/stoploss>

STOP-LOSS STATISTICS SINCE 2001

US Army (Active, Reserve & Guard):

- Number of Troops: 131,086
- Average Time in Stop Loss: 8 months
- Average Compensation: \$4,000

US Navy:

- Number of Troops: 5,565
- Average Time in Stop Loss: 15 months
- Average Compensation: \$7,500

US Marine Corps (Active & Reserve):

- Number of Troops: 8,992
- Average Time in Stop Loss: 9 months
- Average Compensation: \$4,500

US Air Force:

- Number of Troops: 39,199
- Average Time in Stop Loss: 10.5 months

- Average Compensation: \$5,500

[Source: US House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations, Majority Staff, May 6, 2009]

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